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• 2. (Twice Amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula

$$R^{1}_{n}$$

antioxidants other than said one or more aldehyde.

wherein R represents -CHO, -CH<sub>2</sub>OH, -COOH, or -COOR<sub>5</sub>; n is an integer from 0 to 3; each R<sup>1</sup> represents -OH, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of carbon and heteroatoms in all R<sup>1</sup> substituents of said compound is no more than 15; and R<sub>4</sub> represents -H or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R<sub>5</sub> represent an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound.

- 15. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 7, wherein said composition comprises a surfactant.
- pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

  administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic

aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of

(Amended) A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to

- 35. (New) The method according to Claim 6, wherein said aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.
- 36. (New) The method according to claim 7, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.
- 37. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said aromatic aldehyde is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde,  $\alpha$ -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.
- 38. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of soil borne pathogens.
- 39. (New) The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological organisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.